

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-05 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-01
OMB-01 DOE-12 /109 W

-----109360 210458Z /14

R 202133Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5738

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY PARIS

ALL OTHER CANADIAN CONSULS POUCH

UNCLAS OTTAWA 10529

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, CA, FR

SUBJECT: CANADA/FRANCE TRADE AGREEMENT TO BE CANCELLED

1. EXTAFF MINISTER JAMIESON ANNOUNCED DECEMBER 15 CANADA'S DECISION TO TERMINATE CANADA/FRANCE TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1933. IN ANNOUNCEMENT, JAMIESON POINTED OUT THAT AGREEMENT WAS NO LONGER SIGNIFICANT SINCE IT HAD BEEN SUPERSEDED BY COMMON MEMBERSHIP IN GATT, FRENCH MEMBERSHIP IN EEC AND CANADA'S DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE. ONLY PART OF AGREEMENT WHICH CONTINUED TO HAVE PRACTICAL EFFECT, HE SAID, WAS ARTICLE ELEVEN PROVIDING FOR MUTUAL PROTECTION OF APPELLATIONS OF ORIGIN FOR GOODS PRODUCED IN EITHER COUNTRY.

2. ARTICLE ELEVEN OF AGREEMENT GAVE PERSONS REGISTERING THEIR APPELLATIONS RIGHT TO SEEK PROTECTION IN CANADIAN COURTS. FRENCH PRODUCERS DID NOT AVAIL THEMSELVES OF OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION UNTIL 1964, WHEN THEY

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TOOK ACTION AGAINST CANADIANS USING TERM "CHAMPAGNE", BUT BY THAT TIME CANADIANS HAD ALREADY ESTABLISHED VIABLE CHAMPAGNE INDUSTRY. RECENT COURT ACTION PRECLUDED CANADIAN PRODUCERS FROM USING TERM CHAMPAGNE WHILE FRENCH AND OTHER FOREIGN PRODUCERS CONTINUED TO DO SO. GOC, ACCORDING TO JAMIESON, CONCLUDED THAT AGREEMENT NO LONGER PROVIDED FOR BALANCED EXCHANGE OF ADVANTAGES AND

DISCRIMINATED UNFAIRLY AGAINST CANADIAN INDUSTRY IN FAVOR OF FOREIGN PRODUCERS. NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS TO NEGOTIATE A SATISFACTORY COMPROMISE, JAMIESON SAID, HAD FAILED SO GOC HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO TERMINATE AGREEMENT.

3. PARLIAMENT WILL BE ASKED TO REPEAL CANADA/FRANCE TRADE AGREEMENT ACT TO GIVE EFFECT TO TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT. TERMINATION WILL TAKE EFFECT THREE MONTHS FROM DATE OF NOTIFICATION.

4. ACCORDING TO PRESS, QUEBEC LIQUOR CORPORATION WILL CONTINUE TO RESPECT NAMES OF ORIGIN FOR ITS CUSTOMERS IN SPITE OF ABROGATION OF AGREEMENT. ENDERS

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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